

Peggy Oki
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To:fwl0ttereis@r1.fws.gov

cc:

bcc:

08/22/2000 11:37 PM CET

Please respond to okipelagic

Subject:Southern Sea Otter

RE: "Scoping for Draft Supplement EIS (Environmental Impact
S.....), Southern Sea Otter Translocation"

22 Aug. 2000

Dear U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office
and Mr. Greg Sanders,

I attended the meeting that you hosted last week at the Radisson in
Santa Barbara, regarding what seems to be a difficult decision on your
part, regarding your management policies of the Southern Sea Otter.

I am an individual with a considerable background of education and
interest in the topic of marine mammalogy. After attending your meeting,
and reviewing the information and comments made available, regarding the
translocation of the Southern Sea Otter, I have come to the following
conclusions:

Please make a complete evaluation of failure criteria but do not remove
the Sea Otters from San Nicholas Island or the Management Zone.

In addition: please consider protecting water quality as a means of
protecting the quality of the Otter habitat.

In the larger picture, please consider the Sea Otter as a keystone
species, important as the positive aspect of the ecosystem scope.

In summary, I recommend that the current populations of the Southern Sea
Otter, be allowed to remain as they have arrived in the Management Zone.
But to also protect the natural environment of the Otter by working with
other agencies to maintain water quality and all aspects of habitat
integrity.

Thank you for your interest & concern. And for considering my comments.

Sincerely Yours, Peggy Oki